

656
RECEIVED
(4)
December 22, 1977

Mr. Leonel J. Castillo
Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service
425 I Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20536

Dear Mr. Castillo,

Just a note to thank you for supporting our recent request for exercise of the Attorney General's parole authority for 5,000 Soviet refugees in Italy.

This resettlement action will not only be of great benefit to the refugees concerned, but will also relieve the heavy financial burden under our United States Refugee Program (USRP) for the care and maintenance of these refugees in the asylum area.

I also wish to thank you for reinforcing your staff in Rome in order to expedite the processing and movement of these refugees.

Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

Seasons greetings and best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Derian
Assistant Secretary for
Human Rights and
Humanitarian Affairs

RL
Draft:HA/ORM:JLCarlin/cv
12-21-77 x 20709